incorporated herein by reference, and the benefit of the filing date of which is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, 35, 36, and 66 without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein, and amend the claims to read as follows:

3. (Amended) A cryptographic key split combiner, comprising:

a plurality of key split generators for generating cryptographic key splits; and a key split randomizer for randomizing the cryptographic key splits to produce a cryptographic key;

wherein each of said key split generators includes means for generating key splits from seed data:

wherein said plurality of key split generators includes a random split generator for generating a random key split based on reference data; and

wherein said random split generator includes means for generating a random sequence based on the reference data.

4. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said random split generator includes means for generating a pseudorandom sequence based on the reference data.

5. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said random split generator includes means for generating a key split based on the reference data and on chronological data.

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6. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said random split generator includes means for generating a key split based on the reference data and on static data.

9. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said plurality of key split generators includes a token split generator for generating a token key split based on label data.

18. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said plurality of key split generators includes a console split generator for generating a console key split based on maintenance data.

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25. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein said plurality of key split generators includes a biometric split generator for generating a biometric key split based on biometric data.



32. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein the cryptographic key is a stream of symbols.

33. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein the cryptographic key is at least one symbol block.

34. (Amended) The cryptographic key split combiner of claim 3, wherein the cryptographic key is a key matrix.

37. (Amended) A process for forming cryptographic keys, comprising: generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits from seed data; and randomizing the cryptographic key splits to produce a cryptographic key; wherein generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits includes generating a random key split based on reference data; and

wherein generating a random key split includes generating a random sequence based on the reference data.

- 38. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a random key split includes generating a pseudorandom sequence based on the reference data.
- 39. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a random key split includes generating a key split based on the reference data and or chronological data.
- 40. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a random key split includes generating a key split based on the reference data and on static data.

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43. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits includes generating a token key split based on label data.

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52. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits includes generating a console key split based on maintenance data.

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59. (Amended) The process of claim 37, wherein generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits includes generating a biometric key split based on biometric data.

67. (Amended) A cryptographic key, including a stream of symbols, formed by the process of:

generating a plurality of cryptographic key splits from seed data; and randomizing the cryptographic key splits to produce a cryptographic key.

68. (Amended) The cryptographic key of claim 67, including at least one symbol block.

69. (Amended) The cryptographic key of claim 67, including a key matrix.